that the experiment is being attempted in some states as well as by some other Governments.

Mr. M. K. Devassy (*Adur*): Has the Government read the report of the Travancore Unemployment Committee?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*): We must have got a copy. It is very difficult to answer the question whether Government have gone through it. We will have a copy.

Mr. M. K. Devassy (*Adur*): Will the Government be pleased to make their position clear with regard to this matter?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*): The position is very clear. We do not think that a committee is the proper method of dealing with this unemployment problem.

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar (*Nemmara*): Has the Government any other method in hand?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*): It is very difficult to answer that question in that form. We are dealing with a question and we cannot categorically answer. It will involve at least a small speech which I think will be hardly proper either for the occasion or for the purpose.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): Is it very difficult for the Diwan Peishkar to make some enquiries? There are many Village Menons and Parvathiakarans under him.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*): If it is for collection of statistics with respect to unemployment, in my humble way I made some attempt last year and I have got certain figures with respect to each village in the State. I shall be glad to place the same wherever wanted.

EMPLOYMENT BUREAUS—STARTING OF.

75. Mr. M. K. Devassy (*Adur*): Will the Government be pleased to start employment bureaus with a view to help the unemployed educated youths of the State in seeking employments?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*): The Staff Selection Board that has been constituted by Government is one employment bureau giving employment in Government service. There is no scope for starting more bureaus by Government.

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Mr. M. K. Devassy (*Adur*): May I refer the Government to the report published by the Travancore Government which has specifically dealt with this point and where the idea is not the idea of a Staff Selection Board.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*): When the question was received we thought that it was an invitation for the Government to start its own employment bureaus. Now that the hon'ble member explains that it is with respect to employment bureaus by private agencies, that is a different question which has not been answered.

Mr. M. K. Devassy (*Aaur*): The question is with a view to help the educated unemployed in the State in seeking employment. May I know how the Staff Selection Board serves that purpose.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*): The first part of the question is "Will the Government be pleased to start employment bureaus". Government bureaus for that purpose cannot be started on their own initiative. That is the meaning which we attributed to the first part of the question. The object of the bureau whether started by government or private agencies is the same.

Mr. M. K. Devassy (*Adur*): Will the Government take it from me that the idea of the employment bureau is a non-official body appointed by the Government for the purpose of keeping up negotiations between employers and the unemployed both in the State and outside in order to help the youths of the State. What is the attitude of the Government in this matter?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*): If employment bureaus are started by private agencies for the purpose of giving employment such legitimate help as can be given by the Government will be extended to them.

Mr. M. K. Devassy (*Adur*): Will the Government be pleased to take the initiative in inviting private people to take an interest in the matter and form a Board.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*): I do not think Government can give any such undertaking.

Mr. M. K. Devassy (*Adur*): Cannot the Government take the initiative in asking people to take an interest in the matter?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*): There is a difference between initiative and advice. Initiative is a word which involves several other things also, for example, expenses

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and such other things. I cannot give any assurance on that matter. But advice can be freely given. (*Laughter*).

Mr. M. K. Devassy (*Adur*): Those people are not to be paid, but an office will have to be maintained by the Government.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*): All the details will be considered by the Government when the bureau is started by private agencies.

Mr. M. K. Devassy (*Adur*): May I request the Government to read the report of the Travancore Committee and then to form a final idea?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*): The body known as Government has read the report.

FOREST AREAS—CLEARING OF.

76. **Mr. M. K. Devassy** (*Adur*): Will the Government be pleased to survey the possibilities of clearing and colonising some of the forest areas and hilly tracts of the State?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*): A survey was conducted some 17 years back with a view to clear as much of the Reserve Forest area as possible and the question for a further survey now does not arise in view of the fact that a large extent over 8,600 acres of forest tracts out of about 13,275 acres surveyed and excluded are pending assignment.

Mr. K. Ayyappan (*Ezhuvas-Kanayannur*): Are there any applications for assignment still pending?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*): Yes.

Mr. K. Ayyappan (*Ezhuvas-Kanayannur*): How many?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*): I want notice.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): Are there not unassigned lands in Mattathur Village?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*): There are everywhere. Not there alone. The difficulty is not with respect to the absence of lands but with respect to the absence of bidders.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): Does the Government take any action on petitions sent to them? There are cases where there is no reply for years together.

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